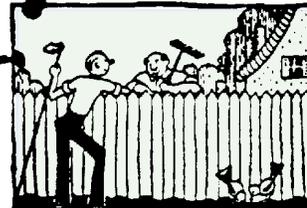




Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc
2003, Volume 61, Number 6



This Month at MGCM

Tuesday, June 24 Garden Tour

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL—A GARDEN TOUR OF MINIATURE JEWELS!

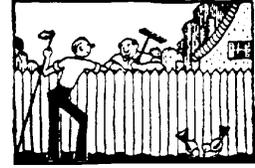
Join us for a June evening tour of member's gardens. We will be visiting four club member's gardens in Minneapolis neighborhoods that border the Mississippi River. These imaginative gardeners all have small city lots—and use every inch to create little oases right in the midst of city life. We will see rose, vegetable, and woodland gardens, quaint decks and porches, and waterfalls all tucked into the smallest of spaces. Surrounded by trees and woodland plantings, or calmed by chirping birds and waterfalls, one would never think that commercial buildings, freeways, and high-rise apartments lurk right around the corner! Also, close by flows the mighty Mississippi River right through these neighborhoods of Minneapolis.

- 6:00 PM** Meet at Minnehaha Falls Park, just south of the Stevens House, 4801 Minnehaha Ave South, for a box supper. Bring a blanket for a picnic, or walk nearby to find picnic tables.
- 6:30 PM** Bus leaves from the park to tour the gardens.
- 9:00 PM** Bus returns to the park. Linger and view the falls at twilight.
- Parking:** Just south of the Stevens House is a parking lot for 24 vehicles. These spaces all have meters; cost is 50 cents per hour. Free parking in the bays along Minnehaha Avenue.
- Cost:** \$16 per person for box supper and bus.

Reservations must be made by Friday, June 20. There will be one bus only, so make your reservation early.

**See page 10 for more Details and Page 11 for
Reservation and Map**

Permanent reservations are not in effect.



From the President

By Nancy Bjerke

The Rest of the Year

What can club members look forward to over the next six months?

The first half of the year is almost history and now we have the next few months to enjoy our gardening results. June and August we will feature members' garden tours. July is the month that we can take pride in the results of our efforts at the Perennial Garden. Kay Wolfe is our leader in design and organization for this public display garden which will be on our tour, along with the other Minneapolis Park Board ones near Lake Harriet, the 15th of July. August is also the Flower, Food and Foto Show at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Dave McKeen is chair for the event this year. September, October and November dinner meetings will be back at the church and in December we will end the 2003 season with a Christmas party at the church.

What! Change the Name???

The majority of the board wants the members to consider renaming the club something other than the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. I have asked Jerry Shannon to chair the MGCM Name Change Committee and he has agreed to do it. This is your chance to make recommendations for a new name. Jerry is looking for committee members with suggestions and he can be reached at 651-690 1214. He is planning on setting up a meeting when he has identified the committee members. When the committee has decided on a name it will be presented to the club for a vote. Club members will be notified of the suggested name in the Spray prior to the meeting.

The Plant Sale & Auction

A note from our treasurer

Although not completely wrapped up, our plant auction was certainly a very successful activity. The profit should be about \$600 over the projected budget. The biggest buyers were Doug Whitney and Paul and Janet Tolzmann. They will receive Malmborg's gift certificates.

The committee is complemented on a job well done.

Page 3 & 4

Pages three and four provides a glimpse into the fun that goes on at the plant sale and auction. These pictures were taken by Chuck Carlson and Lloyd Wittstock.

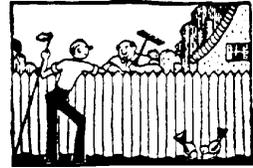
The Summer Tours

By Kay Wolfe

This summer the MGCM Tour Committee has planned three events, instead of the usual two. In June there will be an evening tour of member's gardens. On Tuesday evening, July 15, we will tour the Lyndale Park Gardens near Lake Harriet in Minneapolis. And in late August on Sunday the 24th, we will again tour member's gardens.

A July Tour Preview

Mark Tuesday evening, July 15 on your calendar. We'll meet for supper, a short lecture and tour of the Perennial Trial Garden, and then go on small tours led by park volunteers on the horticulture and history of Lyndale Park Gardens, including the Rose Garden, Peace Garden, and annual and perennial gardens.



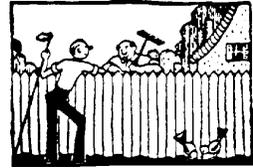
Above at the Country Store

To the right The cooks

Below Waiting for Dinner & conversation

Photos by Chuck Carlson





*Bob Voigt selling tickets to Charles Benson
Above right Eldon Hugelen the big raffle winner
Photo by Chuck Carlson*



*Above Dave Johnson & The Auctioneer
To the right The Auctioneer
Photo By Lloyd Wittstock*



Board Meeting Summary



*Summarized from
Mary Oelke's Secretarys Report
This month by Ellen Hosch*

Meeting Date: 13 May 2003

Board members present: Nancy Bjerke, Lynda Carlson, Ellyn Hosch, Dave Johnson, Dave McKeen, Warren Nordley and Jackie Overom. Absent: Rudy Allebach and Mary Oelke

President's Report

Jerry Shannon has agreed to be chair of the committee to propose a new name for the club. The committee will make a recommendation to the general membership a couple months in advance of the actual vote to change the name. No specific time frame was determined.

Secretary's Report

The April meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

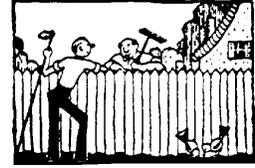
Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted by Dave Johnson. The preliminary results from the Plant Auction indicate that the profit will meet or beat the amount budgeted.

We received a request for more supporting information for our application for non-profit 501(c) 3 status. Dave is preparing a response to be submitted by the end of May. In addition, we are required to change our Articles of Incorporation to further clarify the non-profit nature of our organization. The changes to the Articles of Incorporation must be filed and approved by the State of Minnesota.

Membership Secretary's Report

Three new candidates were approved for membership: Sharla Aaseng, Bobby Schauerhamer, and Donald Untiedt. This



brings the total membership to 120.

Old Business

The Board discussed the dues increase that was defeated at the last general membership meeting. Additional justification based on actual club expenses will be necessary if the motion is to be resubmitted for consideration.

Dave Johnson is checking on the price of the calendars from the National Men's Garden Club. If the price is reasonable, he might order a small quantity to sell.

Warren Nordley reported that there is storage space available within the Red Barn at the MN Landscape Arboretum according to Peter Olin. Dave McKeen will coordinate with Peter Olin about using the storage space.

New Business

The Board approved the recognition of members with 25+ years of membership. Recognition will consist of certificates to be awarded at an upcoming general membership meeting. Chuck Carlson has volunteered to make the certificates.

The State Fair is again offering the opportunity to be a garden sponsor. The Board decided not to pursue the opportunity. The Board approved bringing a recommendation to the general membership to become a member of the MN Park Legacy Society for \$100. Nancy Bjerke will ask Bob Voigt to speak to the club about the Society prior to the membership vote.

The Board decided to give each new 2003 member one of the remaining Bachman's discount coupons.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on 3 June at 7:00 PM at the home of Rudy Allebach.

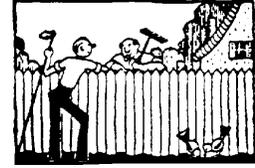


Photo Contest

By Lloyd Wittstock

PHOTO CONTEST TIME AGAIN

Last year at this time 20 of the club members and a few other photography enthusiasts were preparing for the Tenth Annual MGCM Photography contest. This year...who knows how many are preparing right now. Perhaps they do so to win a ribbon. Perhaps they do this to learn a bit more about taking, and selecting their prints or slides. Or, maybe someone in the club just talks them into it and they don't know how to say no.

But one thing is for sure, if you participate this year, you will enjoy sharing your photos and exchanging information about your favorite plants, your garden or the landscapes you travel to see.

Now, if you do want a little inside info on what happened last year, you could seek out the four judges and try to get their points of view—should everything in the photo be in focus? Should all of the bloom be in frame? Should the container be visible in the photo of a container-grown plant? These are real and continuing questions the many judges over the ten years have discussed, sometimes with passion.

More practically, you could read the following data on the tenth annual event:

Overall, there were 50 slides and over 300 prints.

- There were very few slides in the categories of annuals, club activities, and wildflowers in the wild.
- There were relatively few prints in the roses, vegetables, club activities, scenes of member gardens, wildflowers in the wild, educational, and manipulated images categories.

These facts may help you select your entries. But remember, as they say, "Past

performance is not an indicator of future performance."

And just a word on composition and freshness of perspective: take some time to look at the wonderful variety of images in the landscape, botanical, and garden selections offered free for you to view at Websites such as PhotoIsland.com and Imagestation.com. You will find a wealth of ideas for new locations, subjects, angles and lighting.

We look forward to seeing your photos, one, two or many, in the eleventh annual contest.

Remember your entries are due July 31, so get that camera out and get some pictures.

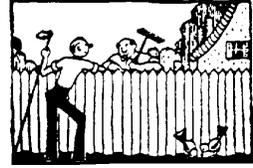
All the rules of the contest has been issued and sent to all emailers and those that entered last year. If you didn't get one and want to enter the contest, contact Chuck Carlson.



pH

I found this excerpt in the newsletter for the pond society and thought you might enjoy it. They have an advice column and this was one of the answers to a question about pH.

"I can appreciate the fact you are Scandinavian heritage but pH has to do with the percentage of hydrogen ions in the water as measured on a logarithmic scale of 1-14. It has nothing to do with pounds of herring



Learning the Secrets of Life through Gardening and Gardeners

By Bob Olson

All I ever needed to know about life could be learned from my friends in the garden club. Some basic garden truths which hold deeper philosophical implication, ring just as true today as they did 20 years ago when some of them were proliferated.

Bob Savory (Bob Olson's hosta mentor) told me "Never put a \$40 plant in a 50 cent hole."

Dave Johnson (whose garden was to die for) claims, "To get the best results start with good materials".

Roger Koopmans (everyone's gardening mentor) contends "It's not enough to grow the plants to perfection, you must also display them well".

Jerry Shannon (a man who is always at the cutting edge) says "You can't stand pat in life (or gardening), you have to keep moving forward". [I think Thomas Wolfe blatantly stole this "Shannonism" when he wrote, "You can never go home again."]

But the most profound and useful concept came from the redoubtable Russell Smith, (the dean of the Garden Tour Committee) "Never let the absolute truth interfere with a good story".

Well as you can see many things can be learned at a garden club meeting and not all of them are about gardening.



You might have noticed there are many pictures and some free space in this issue. This is because not enough members have supplied copy. The next issue may go to 8 pages if you don't supply copy. The editor.

Getting To Know Our Past Presidents

*Data collected by our Historian
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson*

Editors note: This is a series of past presidents in the club who are still members in the club. The selection process will be to present the earliest presidents that we have history available. Get your bio sketches to Howard. This is an attempt to make the club a bit more personable by getting to know our members better.

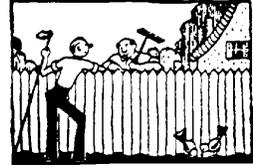
Archie Capel

Archie was born in International Falls, Minnesota on October, 4 1919. He also graduated from high school at "The Falls" and also attended the U of M, Minneapolis for 2 years. He is married to Jean and they live in Richfield.

He is retired from Northwest Orient Airlines where he worked as Director of Safety & Internal Security.

A member of a number of organizations; American Legion, House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Richfield, MN. Northwest Airline Retiree Management Assoc., and a life member of Veteran of Foreign Wars and National Rifle Association. He has also been the Chairman of advisory Council - both in the County and State Level, President 2 year term in the Northwest Airline Retiree association.

His horticultural activities are with Hennepin County Master Gardener, Hobby Greenhouse Association, and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Of course he is a long time member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis since 1975 being sponsored by Darwin Price, Archie has been on many committees, been a director, vice president and president in 1980. He says the club is most



gratifying by its association and friends in the club. His advice is to hang in there and enjoy the "Club".

Jerald Shannon

Jerald Shannon was born in 1936 in Minnesota's capitol city of St. Paul. His education at the University of Minnesota lead him to working for 35 years with the St. Paul School system. At the university he earned a BS in Elementary Education, an MS in Elementary Educational Administration, a Specialist in Elementary Educational Administration. Jerry retired in 1993.

Jerry is married to Leona (Lee) and both are extraordinary gardeners who generated a wonderful garden at their home in the Highland area of St. Paul. His primary interest in gardening—To be a partner with Lee in creating gardens that give continuous bloom, growing unusual herbaceous and woody plants.

Besides a lot of personal study, trips, tours and study weeks across the world to accomplish his garden goals, Jerry is a member of a number of many horticulturally related organizations. These are Minnesota Horticultural Society, Garden Club of Ramsey County, Washington County Hort Society, Northstar Lily Society, Minnesota Hosta Society, Minnesota Native Plant Society, Hemerocallis Society of Minnesota, The North American Rock Garden Society and the Men's Garden Club of Minnesota (MGCM).

Jerry said he joined MGCM in 1977 to expand knowledge, and network with other gardeners and was sponsored by Jim Fishbaugher. He performed in many ways for our club; President, Secretary, Co-chair 1988 National Convention committee, and Chair of the Arbor Day Committee. He was also the winner of the Bronze Medal in 1988. Jerry said his most gratifying experience in the club was Co-Chairing 1988 Convention which had a record number of registrants.

Getting To Know You

*Data collected by our Historian
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson*

This member was born on October 3, 1925. He is retired Product Cost Supervisor at Ford Assembly, in St. Paul and a Systems Analysts Supervisor, with Metropolitan Transit Commission. This was all after receiving a BPA degree at the University of Minnesota in 1949.

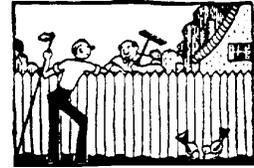
He is none other than our jovial **Melvin Anderson** known to most of us as Mel. Mel and his wife Vivian live in South Minneapolis where he gardens in the confines of a normal city lot.

Organizations that he is a member of are: American Legion Post 99, Vet-Hospital Blood Donor, Canteen - Club 56, Associates of James Ford Bell Library U of M, Minnesota Genealogical Society, Scandinavian Genealogical Society, American Swedish Institute, ASI Varmland Furbundt, Minnesota State Horticultural Society, Mn. 4-H, State Fair Foundation, TGOA-MGCA, and the Arboretum. Mel is also a certified judge for flower shows and is a master gardener.

In our club he has been a Director, a Treasurer for 5 Years, Co-Chair FFF for 6 Years, Plant Auction, Holiday Party Co-chair, Holiday Party committee for over 10 Years, 50th & 60th Anniversary committees, Perennial & Fragrance Garden, and a winner of Bronze Medal.

His biggest gardening interest was first vegetables, then perennials, then Container & Baskets, then Caladiums, and any thing new in annuals.

He joined our club because his son saw an MGCM Show at the Arboretum, brought him a hand out and urged him to join. Mel's son doesn't like gardening himself, but thought that it would be a good fit. He was



right.

Mel's most gratifying experience in the club was being awarded the Bronze Medal. I had been in the club only 5 or 6 Years, and was so surprised. I couldn't say anything but Thank You. A close second would be starting the FFF Concept with Duane Johnson and seeing it develop over the years.

He thanks everyone in the club for a wonderful "trip". Next to a day in the garden or being with family, there is nothing so good as the fellowship within a garden club as MGCM.



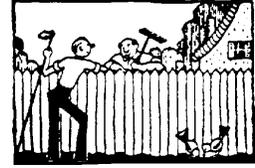
Valley Fair Project

By Dave Moehnke

As Valley Fair staff said to me. "WOW and THANK YOU!" What a great turn out of the Dirty Knees Gang. 21 attendees, members old and new, spouses, friends, all contributing just a few of their own valuable hours for the clubs benefit. If you weren't there we missed you. If you were there, we thank you.

Bottom line. Profit to Club \$1,250.00!

P.S. We are not the only group who has found this "lucrative" fund raiser. There is another group already scheduled for three sessions.



The June Tour

By Kay Wolfe

In June there will be an evening tour of member's gardens. The June tour's theme is "Small Is Beautiful—A Tour of Miniature Jewels." The gardens are all located in Minneapolis, on small city lots, and in neighborhoods near the Mississippi River. We will meet at Minnehaha Park, near the Stevens House, for a box supper. Years ago the planting of the gardens around the historic Stevens House was done by MGCM members. The historical society volunteers now conduct ongoing maintenance of the gardens.

We will travel to the garden of **John Dahl**, expert rose grower and Master Gardener. John takes his stunning floral specimens to numerous summer shows—those of the Rose Society and the State Fair. Grown in a small sunny space next to the street, the roses are all tagged with numbers and buried in winter. And he starts his many annuals from seed. Let's have him show us his ribbons!

Ada Hegion lives close to a commercial complex, but takes no heed. Paths through woodland gardens lead to the back of the house, where there is a waterfall, shade gardens, flowering shrubs, and a fruit production bed. Overseeing the whole garden is a spacious deck surrounded by bird feeders—a place for peaceful rest.

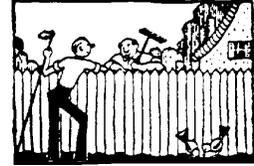
Master gardener Kent Petterson and wife Abby recently expanded their house and almost doubled its size—and still have plenty of garden. A welcoming arbor leads us into a front woodland garden. A charming new porch is on the back—and overlooks a mini-farm, Kent's vegetable garden, which has brought him many trophies. The neighbors take advantage of the view—and together expand this little countryside in the city.

Doug Whitney has been one of the big

spenders at the May auction for years (as well as being the talented organizer of this great event), and now we get to see where all these plants have gone! Fresh white fences and arbors surround the property. Huge roses sit in pristine raised beds carved out of a green lawn. Pretty small flowering trees add accents and a bit of shade. The lot is unique in that two sides are bordered by an alley—letting in lots of sun for producing outstanding flowers!

Join us for this great tour!





The 2003 Schedule of Events

July 15, Members Tour
 Perennial Garden Tour
 August 16, FFF Show at Arboratum
 August 17, FFF Show at Arboratum
 August 24, Members Tour
 Grasses & Fall Gardens

September 9, Dinner Meeting
 October 14, Dinner Meeting
 November 11, Dinner Meeting
 November 28, Wreath Making
 at Kliers Garden Center
 December 2, Holiday Party

June 24, 2003 Tour

Reservations

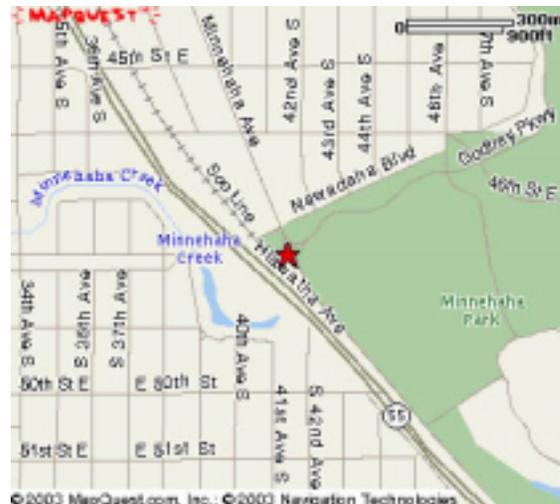
Reservations must be made by Friday, June 20. There will be one bus only, so make your reservation early.

The Permanent Reservation List is not in effect for this event.

Reservations and payment must be sent to Carole Ann Brekke. See the reservation form below.

The Meeting Place

The meeting place is the Stevens house grounds. See the map to the right. You can also go to www.mapquest.com and enter the Stevens House address, 4801 Minnehaha Av S, Minneapolis 55417.



**Please reserve a place for my guests and me
 for the box supper and tour**

Members Name: _____ I/We will ride the bus _____

Guest Name(s): _____ I/We Plan to follow _____

Enclosed is my check for _____ @ \$16.00 each for a total of \$ _____

Reservation and payment must be received no later than June 20.

Send to Carole Ann Brekke,
 709 Rushmore Drive, Burnsville MN 55306-5161



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Nancy Bjerke
 1035 Heritage Lane, Orono, MN 55391-9342
 Vice-President: Ellyn Hosch
 436 Sheridan Ave So, Minneapolis, MN 55405-1913
 Recording Secretary: Mary Oelke
 5745 Duncan Lane
 Edina, MN 55346-1603
 Membership Secretary: Jackie Overom
 14024 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4728
 Treasurer: Dave Johnson
 5291 Matterhorn Dr., Fridley, MN 55421-1324
 Past President: Warren Nordley
 14001 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4741

DIRECTORS:

Rudy Allebach
 3414 The Mall, Minnetonka MN 55345-1239
 Lynda Carlson
 5105 Halifax, Edina, MN 55424-1419
 David McKeen
 2834 Vernon Ave So, St Louis Park, MN 55416-1840

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THE SPRAY

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members. The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

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14th Flag Day
 15th Fathers Day
 21st Summer Begins
 24th MGCM Tour